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WILLIAM P. BUNDY

June 14, 1978

JAMES CHACE MANAGING EDITOR

PERSONAL

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Stan:

We were delighted to get your letter of June 8, commenting on the Godfrey article in our April issue. As it happened, the article did elicit several long letters from intelligence alumni, and when you see our July issue, officially published this Thursday, you will see that we have used one of these in that issue. This was by one of the old veterans, Arthur Jacobs, who happens also to be a dear friend of mine and has covered just about every angle of the situation in a thoughtful and responsible manner. You will see that he also refers briefly to some of the problems arising from your recent personnel actions — which for my personal money were something that had to be done and that perhaps had been left to you as an unsolved problem.

Had we had your letter by early May, when we necessarily have to close on all our copy, we would certainly have run it at the head of the section. As things now stand, we shall certainly hold it as a possible for the October issue, both because of its substantive points and because a statement from you on the subject obviously has extra importance. At this moment, I cannot definitely commit us to using it, as this may depend in part on intervening comments or even the possibility of some further article on the present issue of legislative controls. May I then leave it that we shall be in touch with you in late July to see how the issue stands and to see how we both feel about using it for the October issue, which actually appears in mid-September? Needless to say, you yourself might then wish to put your views in some different fashion, and we must both be sure that this is what we both want as the occasion approaches.

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I paid a short visit to Bob Bowie's shop in early April, and found it most informative. (Alas, Bob himself was them out of action, but I gather has now returned in reasonably good shape.) One thing that struck me very forcefully was the amount of time that his shop was now devoting to direct briefings and written work for members of Congress. It happens that we are trying to put together a series of articles on the role of Congress in foreign policy, and one aspect of the subject that seems to me as important as it is difficult to analyze is the question of how Congress gets its information. It may be that I would like to get further advice on this from someone in your shop on a background basis, if this is agreeable.

I doubt if you can complain of boredom in this job. You have the helm in a particularly difficult watch, and I have the feeling that public understanding of the importance of the mission is slowly growing. Nothing could be more central to our foreign policy, and I am glad we have a man of your experience and judgment running the shop.

With warm regards,

Yours ever,

Bill

William P. Bundy

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